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STATINTL

DODD SAYS U.S. FACES ODDS ON A-TEST PACT

1,000 to 1 Against U.S. He Asserts

BY WILLIAM EDWARDS
(Chicago Tribune Staff Writer)

Washington, April 9 — Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D., Conn.) told the Senate today that the United States will be gambling against odds of 1,000 to 1 if it signs a nuclear test ban treaty with Russia.

He documented this conclusion with the testimony of scientists as he placed in the Congressional Record an exchange of letters between himself and Adrian S. Fisher, deputy director of the arms control and disarmament agency.

Fisher explained the Kennedy administration's viewpoint that there are risks in a Russian pact but that the advantages of such an agreement outweigh the dangers. Dodd, in answer, "challenged Fisher's assertions on virtually every point."

Lead Fight on Treaty

It was the first time that the arguments pro and con about a test ban had been recorded in the form of a debate for senators' perusal. If a treaty is negotiated, it will have to be approved by the Senate to be effective. Dodd, who has been leading the fight against a treaty, said he hoped the correspondence would give Congress and the American people a clearer insight into the basic issues which have been clouded in confusion.

Fisher contended that the treaty now offered to the United States provides adequate assurance that the Soviet Union could not cheat by staging secret tests. He denied Dodd's contention that the United States has lost its lead in the arms race since the Russian first test. Dodd said he felt the debate is precluded from going on before a treaty is signed.

Points to Decisions

The advantages and risks involved in a test ban have been weighed by the President and his key advisers in the national security area on a number of occasions since the negotiations began in 1958. Fisher declared, "Each time the conclusion has been that the advantages outweighed the risks."

"It has repeatedly been stated," Dodd replied, "that so long as there is a 'chance' of detection and verification [of Soviet cheating] this would serve as a deterrent to any Soviet treaty violation."

"I believe the American people are entitled to a precise statement of what is meant by a 'chance.' If it means 1 chance in 5, most people would agree that such a probability factor would act as a deterrent."

Cites Heavy Odds

Dodd then listed the difficulties any monitoring system could have in detecting secret underground tests and then verifying them, even if the Russians permitted inspection of the suspected area. He quoted from the testimony of prominent scientists and asserted that the probability of discovering such tests would be no better than 1 in 1,000.

If an inspection team ever came close to discovering that a Soviet test had been conducted, against such odds, the Kremlin could be expected to order the inspectors out of the country, charging "espionage," Dodd said.

"You ask me to withhold judgment pending the outcome of negotiations," Dodd wrote Fisher. "It would be disastrous if the administration committed itself to a treaty which the Soviet Union might later feel obliged to reject. Why I think the debate should go on before a treaty is signed."